

MINUTES OF BENTON COUNTY QUORUM COURT

July 18, 2007

A special meeting of the Benton County Quorum Court was held on Wednesday, July 18, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at the Benton County Administration Building, 215 East Central Avenue, Bentonville, Arkansas, pursuant to proper call and notice.

The meeting was called to order by County Judge Gary Black. Deputy Clerk Betsy Deaton called roll as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 10 JPs Present: | Brown, Glass, Harrison, Hill, Hubbard, Schindler, Stephenson, Summers, Winscott, Wolf |
| 3 Absent: | Hobbs, Moore, Wozniak |

A legal quorum was present.

County Judge Gary Black stated that the purpose of the meeting was to declare a vacancy in the office of Benton County Coroner, and to appoint someone to fill the vacancy.

(A) Resolution Declaring a Vacancy in the Office of County Coroner for Benton County

Deputy Clerk Betsy Deaton read the resolution in full.

JP made motion to approve the resolution, seconded by JP Harrison. A roll call vote was recorded as follows:

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 10 yeas: | Brown, Glass, Harrison, Hill, Hubbard, Schindler, Stephenson, Summers, Winscott, Wolf |
| 3 absent: | Hobbs, Moore, Wozniak |

Resolution duly adopted and assigned No. **R-2007-11**.

County Judge Gary Black stated that he received notice of the resignation of Coroner Kimberly Scott on Tuesday, July 17, 2007, and a letter of resignation was filed in the office of the County Clerk on that same day, at which time the County Clerk's office sent notice to the Benton County Daily Record of the Quorum Court's intent to declare a vacancy in the office of Coroner. He said that his office has received unsolicited applications for the position, and they have all been contacted and informed that if they are still interested in the position, they should attend this meeting of the Quorum Court. He said they will be considered in alphabetical order, and after the selection is made by the Quorum Court, he will administer the oath of office.

County Judge Gary Black announced that Public Comments limited to the subject of the Coroner appointment will be allowed at this time, and the applicants will be given the opportunity to speak later in the meeting.

No public comments were made.

JP Summers made motion that the Quorum Court recess into the Committee of 13, seconded by JP Wolf. JP Summers stated that a Committee of 13 meeting is the proper vehicle to allow the applicants to speak.

There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was recorded as follows:

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 10 yeas: | Brown, Glass, Harrison, Hill, Hubbard, Schindler, Stephenson, Summers, Winscott, Wolf |
| 3 absent: | Hobbs, Moore, Wozniak |

Motion passed.

RECESS

Committee of 13 in session:

There was discussion regarding further procedures, and a consensus was reached that each applicant would speak for 5 minutes. Richard Boles, Wayne Brashers, Jerome Jung, Wesley Lewis, and Daniel Oxford made statements describing their qualifications. Following the statements, a question and answer period was conducted by the Justices of the Peace. JP Stephenson made motion to adjourn and reconvene to Quorum Court, seconded by JP Hill. Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

QUORUM COURT RE-CONVENED:

County Judge Gary Black called the meeting to order. Deputy Clerk Betsy Deaton read the list of applicants. County Judge Gary Black asked if each applicant understood that if they are appointed to fill the vacancy, they cannot run for this position in the 2008 election.

County Judge Gary Black explained that each Justice of the Peace will answer roll call with the name of the individual they wish to be selected to fill the vacancy.

Deputy Clerk Betsy Deaton called the roll. The vote was recorded as follows:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Wesley Lewis: | Brown, Glass, Harrison, Hill, Hubbard, Schindler, Stephenson, Summers, Winscott, Wolf |
| Absent: | Hobbs, Moore, Wozniak |

Wesley Lewis was selected.

(C) A Resolution Declaring the Appointment of a Successor to Fill a Vacancy in the office of County Coroner for Benton County

Deputy Clerk Betsy Deaton read the proposed resolution naming Wesley Lewis as County Coroner for the remainder of the term expiring December 31, 2008.

JP Stephenson made motion to approve the resolution, seconded by JP Hill. A roll call vote was recorded as follows:

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 10 yeas: | Brown, Glass, Harrison, Hill, Hubbard, Schindler, Stephenson, Summers, Winscott, Wolf |
| 3 absent: | Hobbs, Moore, Wozniak |

Resolution duly adopted and assigned **R-2007-12**.

County Judge Gary Black administered the Oath of Office to Wesley Lewis.

JP Stephenson thanked the other applicants for their interest, and stated that there had been an unusually well-qualified field of applicants.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None

There being no further business to come before the court, upon motion and second the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mary L. Slinkard
Mary L. Slinkard
County Clerk

Prepared by: Betsy Deaton